



FMCS

FEDERAL MEDIATION &
CONCILIATION SERVICE

SPEAKER'S BIO



BARBARA LICHTMAN

COMMISSIONER
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Barbara Lichtman was appointed Commissioner to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in August 1992. She has been involved in mediations in all industries including broadcasting, health care, pharmaceuticals, warehousing and trucking, food service, utilities, entertainment, distribution, and education. In addition, she has represented the Agency in international training efforts in Mexico City and Bangkok and has been the recipient of multiple FMCS performance awards in recognition of her work.

Commissioner Lichtman is responsible for mediating collective bargaining negotiations as well as grievances in order to avoid arbitration. Training on collective bargaining both traditional and interest based, contract administration, labor-management cooperation and relationship building programs are just some of the training programs she has presented to a multitude of labor and management representatives from aerospace to zookeepers. She mediates in all industries, but her practice has a high concentration on health care. Commissioner Lichtman has coordinated the annual FMCS Arbitration Symposium since 2012. During her career she has been involved in more than 1,000 negotiations and more than 1,000 arbitrations or grievance mediations and presented at various national, regional and international conferences on conflict-related topics. Prior to her appointment, she was in private practice as an arbitrator.

Commissioner Lichtman's experience in labor relations came primarily from her tenure with District 1199C, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees. She worked as an administrative organizer, and shortly became Executive Vice President of District 1199C in Philadelphia and a national Vice President of 1199, which at the time represented 150,000 health care employees throughout the United States. She was responsible for negotiating collective bargaining agreements primarily at hospitals and behavioral health facilities throughout the Philadelphia region and administering these agreements, along with her staff, including arbitrating cases when necessary and training stewards on grievance handling. Ms. Lichtman served as a trustee on several joint funds, including health, pension, legal, and training. She resigned from her positions after 11 years in 1988, to move overseas.

Commissioner Lichtman is or has been a member of LERA, American Arbitration Association, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish Business Network and the Ethnic Labor Committee and various organizations focused on the autism population.